

COTTON CHATS

DRAPER CORPORATION
HOPEDALE, MASSACHUSETTS



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TRADE-MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
AND IN CANADA

DRAPER CORPORATION

HOPEDALE MASS

No. 253. JULY, 1924.

HOW TO ARRANGE TO RUN MORE LOOMS PER WEAVER

Forty-eight Northrop looms per weaver on high grade sateens made with cop filling with one bobbin girl to each weaver. Fifty-four Northrop looms per weaver on light prints with a bobbin girl for each 72 looms. We have already cited these successful efforts towards increased output per unit of labor. In both cases the skilled weaver has the assistance of unskilled help in the bobbin girls.

Another Massachusetts mill worked out its problem without bobbin girls. Some weavers run 36 looms. The average for the plant is over 33 looms. All fill their own bobbins.

This mill makes 60 styles of goods, some with 30's warps and 40's filling, some with 50's warp and 60's filling. Many of the Northrop looms are 25 years old and have been run night and day for 15 years. Much of the preparatory machinery is older. On night and day runs the weave room production is 100 per cent, running noontimes without help.

The published statement of this mill shows large profits in 1923.

In all of these mills the help is as pleased with the results as the manufacturers.

BRINGING IT HOME TO YOU

There is significance to the textile industry in these examples of more efficient use of Northrop looms. They present to every manufacturer these questions:

Is it not entirely practicable for me to increase the number of looms per weaver? How shall I go about it?

Don't begin by simply ordering your help to run more looms. This method and its failures are responsible for the belief that the capacity of both looms and workers has been reached.

The Northrop loom is perfected to do all the work of weaving if kept mechanically right, if filling and warp are continuously supplied and the yarn does not break.

The operator should be an overseer of her mechanical help, the looms. She fills the worker's position only when something goes wrong. The number of looms she can supervise depends upon the number of times per day something goes wrong.

HOW OFTEN DO YOUR LOOMS STOP

How many times a day do your looms stop on account of poor sizing? From slack threads due to slipped knots? From bad spooler knots? From slugs or snarls? From waste on the warp? From weak places in uneven yarn or yarn of insufficient strength? From twisted ends or crossed threads? From hitch backs? From slack ends due to faults of preparation?

Are your weavers caused extra work by bad piecing in spinning? By filling breaks caused by worn shuttle eyes? By troubles from a loose shuttle spring, a defective

shuttle or loose bobbin rings? By poor filling? By less than the maximum amount of yarn on the bobbin? By oversized bobbins with so much yarn they cause transfer troubles?

Do the same fixing troubles occur day after day? Could these be reduced by better repair parts, by suggestion or instruction? Are the warp stop motions and knock offs kept properly adjusted? Are the feeler thread cutters fully operative? Are other fixing troubles unnecessarily frequent?

KEEP A SCORE CARD

Where would the baseball manager be without his carefully kept score card?

If you would have your weavers run more looms, find out how much work they are doing; how often the looms fail to do the work automatically. Get the batting average of the looms, the fielding average of the weavers.

Select a competent scorer for a set of looms. Note how many times the looms stop, cause of each stop, time lost before the loom is started. Tabulate the score in columns. Continue until you have figures on which to base a confident conclusion.

You have a score card now! You score earnings in the run column; percentage of production as hits; number of seconds and time out waiting for warps as errors.

This is not enough to know why you lost the last game. The baseball manager calls for times at bat, wild pitches, passed balls, bases on balls, strike outs, assists—all plays and fozzles that enable him to direct teamwork and use his players advantageously.

You need a full score.

When you have the score, use it.

If you need a coach, we have them. They are at your service without charge. They are well-trained, have helped others and can work with you.

With complete figures before you, with or without a

coach to assist, proceed to reduce the loom stops at the source. Stick to the score card. Follow its suggestions.

When the scorer's sheet shows less work for the weaver, increase the number of her looms. Take one step at a time, but keep stepping until you know what can be done. Continue to aid the automatic features of the loom.

It is the loom, not the help, that you are pushing to greater achievement.

And don't be satisfied too easily.

Study the possibilities of using unskilled help to relieve the skilled worker.

Tying in warps and supervising cloth in the making is skilled labor. Refilling batteries is easily taught to new help—apprentice weavers, if you choose. Your score card will show the large percentage of time your skilled weavers now devote to this unskilled labor.

Using battery hands will allow further increase in the number of looms per weaver. Make the change with the scorer still on the job—and again don't stop short of real achievement. Industrial success calls for brains and persistence today.

DIVIDING THE SAVING

Having demonstrated the reasonable capacity of your weavers on the goods you make—a capacity fairer than any based on what other mills are doing—the next step is the division of the savings.

In apportioning these, you must meet present economic conditions—which call for decreased prices on the finished product to bring business to keep your mill running.

You must have a profit on the decreased prices.

Your skilled weavers, having given up unskilled work, are entitled to some increase. To give them their just share will insure co-operation.

A fair apportionment of these several considerations has marked the successful efforts.



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No. 254. AUGUST, 1924.

1850'S TALE OF WOE

COTTON FACTORIES IDLE

HIGH PRICED COTTON

A learned scientist, looking too long at the spots on the sun, made the startling prediction that the orb of day is about to split asunder and shoot one half earthward to scorch us to a cinder.

Another of his learned tribe discovers a weak spot in the earth's crust under New York and prophesies a convulsion of nature that will topple the Gotham sky-scrappers into a yawning hole in the ground.

Textile manufacturers, happy only when the wheels are turning, their help busy and contented and dividends in sight, look upon the business situation and talk as if some cataclysm were about to destroy all they have so patiently builded.

These are all cases of loss of the true perspective. You can't size up a fly on the end of your nose.

You may hesitate to believe it, but the present textile situation is not without historic precedent. Note the

familiar ring in the following from the Scientific American of December 7, 1850:

More than once we have been painfully thrilled at seeing a millstone in some lovely vale lying silent and broken amid the debris of the once busy mill. The once busy wheel, which gave motion to thousands of spindles and hundreds of shuttles, stands gloomy and motionless, like a worn-out war-steed. There are many deserted oriental cities which have no doubt been depopulated by war, famine and pestilence; these have their counterparts in our suspended factories and noiseless mills. In them

“No more the spindle twirls the slender thread,
No more the shuttle flies to win the worker’s bread.”

From Rhode Island, that busy cotton cloth-making hive, we learn that about seventy factories have stopped; from Lowell and our eastern manufacturing villages we hear the same ominous reports. In Maryland, in the Patapsco Valley, “silence reigns” and even from the sunny South we hear of depression and suspension of manufacturing operations. From east, west, north and south, “the times are bad, the cotton manufacturers say,” and they say so truly.

There have been too many of our factories engaged in making coarse cotton goods. Coarse goods can be manufactured cheaper at the South, and with a great number of factories now in operation in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina and some other states, how can it be expected that our northern manufacturers can long keep the field against them—they cannot do it. There is one remedy which we would suggest, that is, to go into the manufacture of finer fabrics, give your cotton more labor, employ more skill and spend more for fine machinery. If you do not take our advice, there is a brave chance for you to lose all your machinery, factories and all.

The pessimists of 1850 were not good prophets. It is not safe to follow those of 1924.

The textile industry did not die in 1850. It is not going to die in 1924, nor in 1925.

Business improved in spite of the pessimists of 1850. It is sure to confound the pessimists of 1924.

Many of the pessimists of 1850 later made fortunes in textiles. Some of those of 1924 will do the same.

They will not make as much as the optimists—for the latter are preparing for good times ahead and will not start under a handicap. They have often known years that

tested their business courage; but "no one ever went broke banking on the prosperity of America."

Now is the time to prepare for a brighter tomorrow.

You can buy Northrop looms today at prices and terms that you cannot secure after a boom starts.

Are your carding and spinning wholly efficient? Do you need new machinery anywhere in the mill? Do your looms need tuning up? Are the stop motions, feelers and thread cutters of the latest and most efficient type? Will they make it easy to run more looms per weaver?

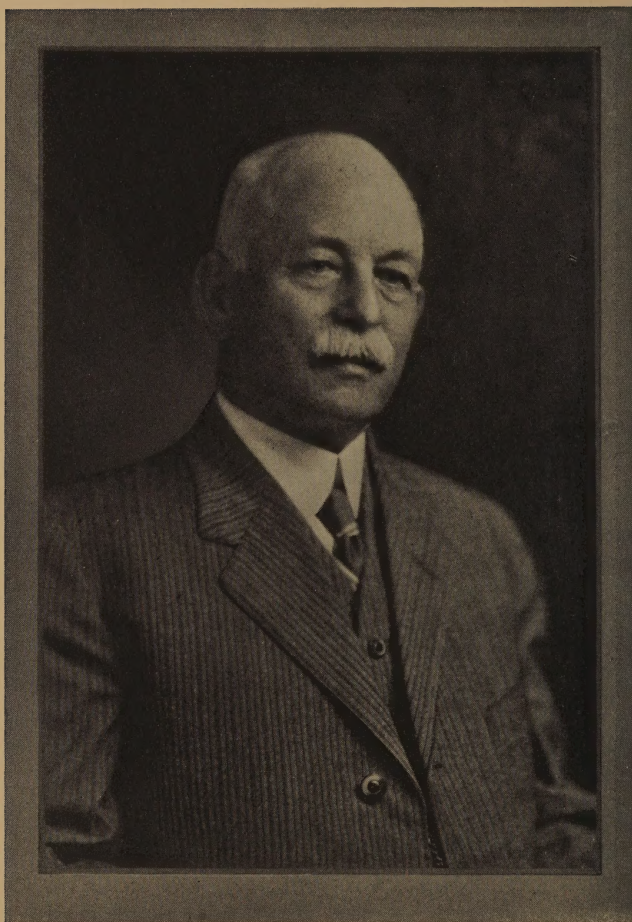
To be unprepared when business improves will cost you much—in higher prices for machinery, in lost product from looms needing repairs or improvements, in smaller profits from inferior equipment. Buy now the equipment you will soon need.

EDWARD SUTTON STIMPSON

It is with regret that we announce the death on July 9, 1924, less than a month before his 87th birthday, of Mr. Edward S. Stimpson, honored senior member of the Draper Corporation experimental staff, which closed an unbroken connection of 68 years with the corporation and its predecessors, the longest term of service of any man ever connected with the business in any capacity.

Mr. Stimpson came to Hopedale when he was 15 years old. Until he was 19 he worked occasionally in the shop of the Hopedale Community, and in August, 1856, became a regular employe of W. W. Dutcher & Company, and ten years later foreman in charge of manufacturing for the Dutcher Temple Company, a position he held for 30 years until the consolidation in the Draper Company, when he became a member of our experimental staff.

Mr. Stimpson's early inventions were chiefly in connection with the temple. During the past 30 years, in



MR. EDWARD S. STIMPSON

the larger field offered by the loom, more than 125 patents contributed to the perfection of the Northrop loom and its accessories. Altogether the patent office recognized his inventive ability 159 times in 55 years from his first patent on May 18, 1869, to his latest on February 12, 1924.

Mr. Stimpson had the artist's love of creation for the satisfaction of accomplishment. His inventions were practical and operative. What his mind and skill produced could be easily manufactured.

